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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/786,322

02/25/2004

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EXAMINER

GIBSON, ROY DEAN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3739

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

11/22/2010

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/786,322	Applicant(s) LAFONTAINE, DANIEL M.	
	Examiner Roy D. Gibson	Art Unit 3739	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 September 2010.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 43,44,46,49,52 and 64 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 43,44,46,49,52 and 64 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 9/27/2010 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 43, 44, 46 and 49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wittenberger et al. (6,575,933) in view of Danek et al. (US 2002/0091379). Wittenberger et al. disclose a device for minimally invasive medical treatment in a body of a patient, comprising:

a tubular member (600) having a proximal end and a distal end;

a cryo therapy apparatus (Figure 13) connected to the distal end of the tubular member, wherein the cryo therapy apparatus comprises a first balloon (610) and a second balloon (630), the first and second balloons arranged to define an inner chamber and an outer chamber, at least a portion of the inner chamber being interior of

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the first balloon and at least a portion of the outer chamber being interior of the second balloon and exterior of the first balloon, a surface of the first balloon configured to retain a coolant within the inner chamber and a surface of the second balloon configured to retain the coolant within the cryo therapy apparatus if the first balloon fails;

wherein the cryo therapy apparatus is sized and arranged for vascular introduction (col. 5, lines 35-67 and col. 8, lines 17-38). However, Wittenberger et al. fail to specifically disclose an optical sensor to monitor temperatures created by use of the cryo therapy apparatus, the optical sensor coupled to a retractable member capable of moving independently of the cryo therapy apparatus. But, Danek et al. disclose a catheter with an on-board optical temperature sensor which meets all of the limitations not disclosed by Wittenberger et al. [0037 which reads: examples of temperature detecting elements include thermocouples, infrared optical sensors, etc.] Therefore, at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the device of Wittenberger et al., as taught by Danek et al., to provide an optical sensor, as is well known in the art as an alternative equivalent means of detecting temperature, a quantification device and a separate lumen with an optical fiber as required for monitoring an ice ball formation and temperature.

Claims 52 and 64 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wittenberger et al. in view of LePivert (6,551,309). Wittenberger et al. disclose a device for minimally invasive medical treatment in a body of a patient, comprising:

a tubular member having a proximal end and a distal end; a cryo therapy apparatus connected to the distal end of the tubular member and comprising a first

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balloon and a second balloon, the first and second balloons arranged to define an inner chamber and an outer chamber, at least a portion of the inner chamber being interior of the first balloon and at least a portion of the outer chamber being interior of the second balloon and exterior of the first balloon, a surface of the first balloon configured to retain a coolant within the inner chamber and a surface of the second balloon configured to retain the coolant within the cryo therapy apparatus if the first balloon fails and body of the patient;

wherein the cryo therapy apparatus is sized and arranged for vascular introduction (col. 5, lines 35-67 and col. 8, lines 17-38).

But, Wittenberger et al fails to specifically disclose an optical imaging apparatus near the distal end of the tubular member to monitor temperatures resulting from use of the cryo therapy apparatus. However, LePivert discloses an optical imaging apparatus (CIS 17) near the distal end of the tubular member to monitor temperatures resulting from use of the cryo therapy apparatus (col. 10, lines 34-51). Therefore, at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the device of Wittenberger et al , as taught by LePert, to provides such an optical imaging device to monitor temperatures resulting from use of the cryo therapy device.

Note that the limitations of claim 64 are also recited in claim 52, thus is redundant.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Roy D. Gibson whose telephone number is 571-272-4767. The examiner can normally be reached on Tu-Th, 7:30 am-4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Linda Dvorak can be reached on 571-272-4764. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Roy D. Gibson/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3739

November 17, 2010